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Portland Conference Action Unanimously Indorsed by San Francisco Labor Council

"YOUR delegate recommends that the action of the Conference herein reported shall be indorsed by the San Francisco Labor Council." These were the concluding words in the report submitted to the Labor Council last Friday night by Delegate George W. Johns of the Retail Cigar and Liquor Clerks, who represented the Council at the momentous conference held in Portland week before last. The Conference went on record favoring suspension of the National Labor Relations Act for the duration of the war.

Represented in the Portland gathering were district councils of metal trades unions (whose members are employed in war industries), international unions, state federations of labor, central labor councils and local unions in the three Pacific Coast States, all being affiliates of the American Federation of Labor.

Sentiment Crystallizes

Action taken by the Conference gives concrete and representative expression to a sentiment that rapidly has gained outspoken adherents in the past year to the effect that the established trade union structure is being undermined by the acts of governmental agencies not foreseen, or at least not generally contemplated, when legislation establishing such agencies was being enacted.

The recommendation for indorsement of the Conference action which was submitted to the San Francisco Labor Council by Delegate Johns won the Council's unanimous approval.

Contained in the Conference declaration was the emphatic statement that "we are convinced that the National Labor Relations Act should be suspended for the duration of the war," and the Congress of the United States was called upon to "take such action as will bring to an immediate end the national menace created by the policy which has been adopted by the administrators of the National Labor Relations Act."

Report to Labor Council

Following is the complete text of the report made to the Labor Council by Delegate Johns:

"After being delegated by the Council on April 16 to attend the Portland conference as an observer, I arrived in Portland on April 19. I attended the meeting of the Portland Central Labor Council on the same evening and learned that their Council was very apprehensive over the recent actions of the N.L.R.B. in the Kaiser case and were completely in accord with the subsequent program that developed. In addition, I was requested by President Phil Brady of the Portland Council to bring back their best wishes for the San Francisco Labor Council.

"I spent the entire day on Tuesday, April 20, in the courtroom where Trial Examiner Robert Denham of the N.L.R.B. was hearing the case pertaining to the A.F.L. contract in the Kaiser shipyards of Portland, Oregon. More than 6000 pages of transcript have been introduced into this case, and the N.L.R.B. has already entered approximately 250 exhibits.

Testimony at N.L.R.B. Hearing

"President John Frey of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor was on the stand during the entire day. His testimony definitely established the facts that in the Master Shipyard Stabilization Agreement for the Pacific Coast both the terms of employment and the conditions of labor were consummated with the full knowledge of the federal authorities present during negotiations and also by highest authorities in Washington, D. C.

"He further warned, should the N.L.R.B. rule that the A.F.L. is not the appropriate bargaining unit, of the danger that would result to the war effort by the setting aside of the Stabilization Agreement for a period of six months to one year while the N.L.R.B. conducted an election in the plant. His testimony also covered in great detail the history of the negotiations leading to the agreement, and he further established the superiority of this agreement as compared with those agreements existing in other shipyard areas in the country.

Conference Convenes

"On Tuesday morning, April 21, the Pacific Coast Conference was called to order by Brother E. M. Weston, president of the Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Council.

"Present at the Conference were representatives from the California, Oregon and Washington state federations of labor. Also present were twelve representatives of the central labor councils of the Pacific Coast, and many international labor officials. Also present was Mr. Janigan, attorney for the Pacific Coast Metal Trades, and President John Frey of the Metal Trades Department. In addition there were 262 delegates representing the metal trades, building trades and the general labor movement on the Pacific Coast.

Frey Analyzes Situation

"Brother John Frey was introduced, and very carefully presented the facts pertaining to the recent actions of the N.L.R.B. and the consequent reflection on the entire labor movement. He brought out that the N.L.R.B. has decided that no trade union agreement is valid unless the Board has previously approved of it. He further stated that the Board now officially holds that such agreements are invalid if one individual files a complaint with the Board charging that he was denied employment because of the agreement we had with the employer.

"In addition, Brother Frey introduced a great deal of testimony into the record which was designed

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Cancel State Federation Of Labor Convention

Realizing that the holding of a convention of the California State Federation of Labor this year was faced with insuperable wartime problems of transportation and housing, the Federation's executive council announces it regretfully came to the decision that in the best interests of the war effort, no convention should be held in 1943. The question was discussed from every point of view in the attempt to find a solution, but it was immediately apparent that both the housing shortage and the war-swollen transportation situation are not only state-wide in extent but are daily growing more acute.

The announcement continued: "Regretful as the Federation is at having to cancel the convention, it is glad to give this further proof of its co-operation in furthering the best interests of the war, and to sacrifice willingly, to the end that nothing will delay the coming of victory."

Letters will be sent in the near future to all affiliates of the Federation officially notifying them of the executive council's decision in regard to the 1943 convention.

Price Control "Mess" As Viewed by News Reporters in National Capital

By a Washington Staff Correspondent of the International Labor News Service

"HOLDING THE LINE"—the "big freeze"—is a cockeyed mess as of today. Astute reporters in Washington know about this mess and some of them print pieces about it. But nobody has yet packed punch enough to show the whole country how big or how dangerous is this mess.

To breach the line anywhere is to throw it all in danger. No, that isn't the way to say it! The way to say it is this: The whole line *is* in danger—it has been cracked.

How far it has been recognized in Washington that the line is in danger is shown in part by an order placed on the President's desk by O.P.A., the handiwork of J. Kenneth Galbraith, deputy administrator.

New Plan Under Study

The Galbraith plan would permit a so-called floating retail ceiling, re-figured by grocers each week, on a basis of costs plus a guaranteed profit. That could be met by labor only by a weekly re-figuring of wages on a basis of living costs, *plus* a guaranteed margin.

Meanwhile Presidents Green and Murray are blasting away, but not getting too far. Their criticisms are fired at Stabilizer Byrnes. They are blasting at O.P.A. Brown for not holding prices, and they are giving Chester Davis, food administrator, a fairly hot lashing.

Position of Labor Officials

But, torn between a desire to support the President and the needs of the rank-and-file workers for relief from the pinch between a millstone of inflexible wages and a tide of rising prices, their work thus far hasn't gone any great distance.

Labor chiefs are not in a position where they can fire at their opponent without hitting their commander-in-chief. They are on a hot spot.

However, hot spot or no hot spot, there may be a showdown not far ahead, for the simple reason that if there isn't some effective action to "hold the line"—not as it is today, but as it was some time back—workers with dwindling buying power will take the bit in their own teeth and do unpleasant things to job continuity, threats in consequence notwithstanding.

Anti-Labor Groups Seek Weapon

And it also is in the cards that any showdown demand by labor will again stir up congressional fires which have been for some weeks more or less dormant. Congressional anti-laborites want a good weapon for a fresh crusade to get encompassing laws.

The outlook is thus not good. Largely it stems back to a failure to take labor into consultation, to bring labor directly into the operating picture by means of proper representation with proper power.

Also the outlook will be colored by what happens in the case of John L. Lewis' challenge. If he "gets his," certain other unions, bitten hard by rising prices, will either have to fight down a rampaging membership or go along with it in battles for wage readjustment.

Additional Evidence

The above article in reference to the "hold-the-line" situation, received by the LABOR CLARION from the I.L.N.S., was mailed from Washington the latter part of last week. On Tuesday of this week, the following news story from Washington appeared in the daily press:

"Office of Price Administration officials admitted today that prices—particularly in the food line—are 'practically out of control.'

"They pointed out that prices of fresh vegetables

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Report of Labor Council Delegate on the Portland Conference

(Continued from Page One)

to show the unfair attitude of the Board. Included was the testimony given by Mr. Robert Watts, general counsel of the N.L.R.B. before the Truman committee.

"Mr. Watts stated:

" 'There is an individual who is complaining about the invalidity of that contract because he lost his job under it. And to follow through with that thought, bear in mind what I am saying means that no agreement between organized labor groups should be in the position of taking away from the unorganized employees the protection the statute affords them.'

"Mr. Frey then commented:

" 'This means any member of one of our unions who says he is paying dues and is disciplined for that reason can bring a complaint before the Board and the Board will then consider whether the agreement with the employer is valid or not. This is open shop, the entire field of government agency interference with our movement and an effort to regulate it to suit themselves and to change the form of organization that labor will have in this country.'

"Would Not Stop Us"

"Mr. Watts of the N.L.R.B. also stated:

" 'Even if an armistice agreement was reached between the C.I.O. and the A.F.L., that would not stop us from investigating every case where a single workman complained that he had been discharged because of the operation of the agreement.'

"A great deal of further testimony was read into the record which was too lengthy for your delegate to include in this report, but which further substantiated the fact that the N.L.R.B. was going to great lengths in the exercise of the discretionary powers granted them by Congress in the National Labor Relations Act.

"After President Frey completed his presentation, the chairman presented Vice-President MacGowan of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. Brother MacGowan then read the following statement to the delegates, the consideration of which being the main reason for the calling of the Conference:

Declaration to Congress

" '*To the Members of the Senate of the United States and the House of Representatives:* To you, the legislative branch of our Government, we respectfully present an urgent request:

" 'The present administrators of the National Labor Relations Act are now doing far-reaching destructive injury to the war production industries, including shipbuilding, through the policy they have applied in the case of the Kaiser shipyards at Portland, Oregon, and their official statements of the policy they will apply in other cases coming before them.

" 'This general policy has already resulted in encouraging and stimulating widespread raiding among organized workmen at present working under trade union agreements with their employers; raiding by other organizations whose desire is to prevail upon these workmen to change their membership.

Encourage Raiding Tactics

" 'In peace times such raiding of another labor organization's membership would be at best questionable, and in many cases a dishonorable activity. During war time such raiding is as reprehensible as it is unpatriotic. During peace times we could and would settle the issue through the application of our economic power. During war times we are pledged to withhold the strike weapon. It should be prevented through voluntary agreement between labor organizations. When they fail to recognize their war time obligations to our country, then those charged with the nation's war effort should assert their authority. But at present the administrators of the National Labor Relations Act are encouraging such raiding tactics by their misapplication of the National Labor Relations Act—raiding which would immediately come to a complete end if the National Labor Relations Board would declare that it would cease its present unjustified and highly dangerous policy during the period of the war.

" 'The National Labor Relations Act was intended to guarantee and enforce labor's right to organization and also to foster collective bargaining between employers and their organized employees. Most assuredly it was not intended to assist employers or others to disorganize workmen already organized or to directly or indirectly make collective bargaining more difficult.

The Kaiser Agreement

" 'The agreement which the Kaiser Company signed with the Metal Trades Council of Portland, Oregon, in May, 1941, was the Master Agreement covering the shipyards and shipyard workers, members of American Federation of Labor unions. Some of this Master Agreement's terms of employment were approved and authorized by the federal agencies participating in the conference who were striving to establish stabilization in the shipbuilding industry. Some of the conditions of labor were negotiated by management and labor without official participation by the federal agencies. But both the terms of employment and the conditions of labor were consummated with the full knowledge of the federal agencies present during negotiations, and also by highest authorities in Washington, D. C.

Approved by the President

" 'When the Master Agreement was submitted to the shipyard workers of the Pacific Coast for their acceptance or rejection, the President of the United States, through his personal spokesman, said in part on April 19, 1941:

> " ' "In the interests of the shipbuilding program as a whole, the President hopes that this stabilization agreement will be ratified, because it seems to be a step in the right direction for speeding up the entire building program."

" 'Afterward, when the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company of San Francisco, California, refused to sign the Master Agreement they were advised by the National Defense Mediation Board that it was their duty to sign the agreement in the interests of more satisfactory shipyard production. The Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company then signed the agreement, as had already been done by the major shipyards of Los Angeles, California, and all shipyards northward on the Pacific Coast to the Canadian Line.

Pact Signed by Bethlehem

" 'The Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company of San Francisco signed the agreement which the President of the United States had approved—the agreement which the Kaiser Company signed in Portland, Oregon, and for which it is now being tried by the National Labor Relations Board, charged with unfair labor practices under the National Labor Relations Act.

" 'The present members of the National Labor Relations Board are engaged in a national disservice. Their policy as now being applied is retarding instead of stimulating production for war purposes. They either have lost their perspective and sense of direction or are incapable of appreciating the realities of wartime necessities. Their present policy is stimulating discord and dissension among workmen. They are encouraging a condition of civil war between labor organizations. Their policy has become nationally harmful, destructive, and as contrary to practical common sense as it is devoid of practical intelligent understanding.

Call for Suspension of Act

" 'For these essential reasons we are convinced that the National Labor Relations Act should be suspended for the duration of the war and that responsibility for the adjustment of labor problems should be placed in some other federal agency. As relief from the mismanagement and maladministration of the National Labor Relations Act can be given only by Congress itself, we must earnestly and patriotically urge Congress to immediately take such action as will bring to an immediate end the national menace created by the policy which has been adopted by the administrators of the National Labor Relations Act.

" 'This urgent request for relief from a condition rapidly becoming destructive to stability and co-operative production in the industries producing for war purposes was unanimously approved and adopted by the Pacific Coast Conference held in Portland, Oregon, April 21, 1943, by [blank] delegates representing the international unions, A.F.L., with members employed in war industries; the state federations of labor, chartered by the A.F.L. of California, Oregon and Washington; the central labor councils chartered by the A.F.L. in these three states; the Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Council, and the local metal trades councils chartered by the Metal Trades Department of the A.F.L., and the local unions of the three states of the American Federation of Labor.'

Group Caucuses Held

"Following the reading of the above statement a recess was held for the purpose of permitting the various groups to caucus. In the caucus of the delegates from labor councils, your delegate informed the group that he was present as an observer only, and that fact was noted.

"In the afternoon session Mr. Janigan, attorney for the metal trades unions, spoke at length on the legal factors involved. He also warned that the National Labor Relations Act gives the Board tremendous discretionary powers which, under the present policy of the Board, can result in tremendous harm to the organized labor movement.

"After a great deal of further discussion, a vote was taken and the Conference unanimously adopted the statement as read.

To Attention of Green

"Another resolution was then submitted calling President William Green's attention to the action of the Conference and urging him to lead an immediate and determined movement in support of the action taken. This resolution was also unanimously adopted.

"This concluded the essential business of the Conference.

"May your delegate, at this time, express his gratitude to the San Francisco Labor Council for the opportunity afforded him to observe such an important meeting.

Delegate's Recommendation

"In conclusion, your delegate has given serious consideration to the evidence placed before him during the progress of the Conference, and in view of the fact that the action decided upon was the unanimous decision of such a large and representative group of labor leaders from the entire Pacific Coast area, your delegate recommends that the action of the Conference herein reported shall be indorsed by the San Francisco Labor Council.

"Yours fraternally,

"GEORGE W. JOHNS, Delegate."

"April 30, 1943."

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Status of Measures Affecting Labor As State Legislature Entered Closing Hours of Session

The following statement on legislative measures was issued by the California State Federation of Labor last Wednesday afternoon:

The legislative picture presents a dangerous calm before the storm of last-minute efforts to push through dozens of bills without time for ample consideration which always precedes adjournment of the California Legislature. Federation representatives are prepared to keep a vigilant watch to defeat the inevitable attempt of anti-labor lobbyists to sneak through their most objectionable bills in the rush and confusion of the closing days of the session.

Little is being said or done by members of the Senate and Assembly with reference to workmen's compensation bills. Most of the bills aimed at restricting workers' rights, or weakening the protection of the existing law, have been tabled or are about to be tabled as a result of the successful program worked out by the Federation toward the many adverse measures in this vital field.

Workmen's Compensation

S. B. 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794 and 795—all previously designated as "bad bills"—have been tabled at request of the author, Senator Mixter, along with lesser legislation on the Senate side. In the Assembly a long line of proposed measures dealing with workmen's compensation has met with a similar fate. In short, no bills are expected to get through dealing with this subject. While a few beneficial proposals have been lost in the shuffle—S. B. 1044 (by Carter) increasing the weekly benefit amount from $25 to $30, has passed both houses, and A. B. 500 (by Wollenberg) already approved by the Assembly, has gone out from the Senate committee on labor with a "do pass" recommendation and, if enacted into law, will increase allowances for burial expenses from $150 to $300—the workmen's compensation results, if undisturbed before the session's end, should be regarded as a successful conclusion due to the Federation's efforts in this direction.

On its way to enrollment and the Governor's desk to be signed is A. B. 295 (Gannon), providing that statements of all deductions from wages are to be furnished each wage earner by his employer. While attacks were made on this valuable piece of legislation in the form of confusing amendments in its final form, A. B. 295 represents a definite gain for all classes of employees.

Unemployment Insurancec

Still commanding the most attention and presenting the most serious danger to labor at the hands of unscrupulous opponents of social legislation, are the numerous bills which have been aimed as poisoned arrows at the heart of the California Unemployment Insurance Act. Most of these measures have been discussed in statements by the Federation of Labor but all of them may be summarized as viciously detrimental to the interests of millions of working people from one end of the State to the other. The proponents of systematic mutilation of unemployment insurance received a definite setback when S. B. 994 (Ward and Powers), containing an impossible definition of "suitable employment," was refused passage in the Assembly Tuesday of this week.

A. B. 1225 (John B. Knight), regarding workers using hiring halls and other voluntary arrangements for sharing "intermittent employment" and cutting down their benefit rights, has been tabled in committee.

S. B. 998, setting up a separate system of benefits so as to gouge out the rights of seasonal workers under the Act, has been amended in the Assembly so as to defeat its evil features, but it remains to be seen whether the Senate will concur in the action of the lower house.

State Employment Commission

On the other hand, S. B. 993, abolishing the California Employment Commission, has received a "do pass" from the Assembly committee on finance and Insurance, as has S. B. 999, penalizing applicants who refuse "suitable employment" beyond existing law. S. B. 1001, increasing "red tape," and S. B. 1026, excluding hospital employees from unemployment protection, have passed both houses and are on their way to the Governor for signature or veto. S. B. 1000, a good bill, providing refund on workers' contributions after taxes have been paid on wages totalling $3000, has also passed both Houses.

It should be remembered that many of these bills which have been tabled or refused passage had their principal features embodied in other bills, so that the Unemployment Insurance fight on the floor of the Legislature has really only just begun.

Price Control "Mess"

(Continued from Page One)

continue to spiral and that, beginning with the shipper —'who apparently does not know ceilings exist'— there is violation from the wholesaler on down.

"This admission by O.P.A. officials came less than a week after Price Administrator Brown, replying to John L. Lewis' demands for higher wages for his miners to meet rising costs of living, promised to roll back 'out of hand' prices, set ceilings on all important commodities and bring violators of price ceilings to justice.

Admit Little Progress

"Since that promise was made last Friday, O.P.A. officials admitted there has been little progress in any of those directions, and many of them despaired that specific action would come in less than a month, if then.

"An O.P.A. spokesman said Mr. Brown's aides are 'hard at work' trying to devise a plan to make price control work, but he said they have all but concluded that the only way out is through consumer co-operation in the field of enforcement. Mr. Brown admitted that even an army couldn't enforce price control without consumer co-operation."

On another page of this issue of the LABOR CLARION will be found a summary of an address delivered by Secretary-Treasurer George Meany of the American Federation of Labor in relation to the food price situation.

Officials to Make Survey Of Coast Labor Relations

Labor relations in all West Coast shipyards are to come under a personal survey of the National Shipbuilding Stabilization Committee this month, states a dispatch from Washington to the San Francisco *Examiner,* and which continued as follows:

Announcement was made that a group of members, headed by Chairman Paul R. Porter and including representatives of the War and Navy departments and the Maritime Commission, will reach Seattle May 10 to start a tour that will extend to Los Angeles.

To Study Shift Hours

The specific purpose of the trip, Porter said, is to look into the comparative merits of the system whereby most yards operate in three eight-hour shifts daily, while two ten-hour shifts are observed in others. However, the only one of the major yards employing the ten-hour shift plan is Bethlehem at San Pedro.

"The commission doesn't favor the ten-hour shift plan," Porter said. "It leaves the yard idle four hours a day, and Uncle Sam, having invested a billion dollars or so in the plants, wants them to work at full capacity."

He explained that although length of shifts will command first attention, the group will inquire into many phases of labor relations in yards, big and small. "Right now we understand those relations to be in very wholesome condition," Porter said. "We are not going out there to give orders and instructions; we are making the trip to get information."

Porter said the party will hold discussions with Washington State shipbuilding representatives at Seattle May 10, 11 and 12.

San Francisco Sessions

Similar meetings will be held at Portland, May 13 and 14. San Francisco meetings will be held May 17, 18 and 19 at the Clift hotel. At Los Angeles the discussions will be May 20 and 21. A great deal of time, Porter said, will be spent in inspections in the yards.

The Shipbuilding Stabilization Committee executed the shipyard stabilization agreement formulated between the Government, labor and management when the shipyards went on a war basis. It covers West Coast, Gulf, Great Lakes and Atlantic zones.

Local Chain Store Founder Dies

Isidor Weinstein, founder and president of the chain of San Francisco department stores bearing his name, passed away on Friday of last week, following an illness of several months. The well known merchant opened his first store, on Fillmore street, a year after the great fire, and since that time had expanded the Weinstein Company, Inc., into the present chain of six large units. He was 71 years of age. The funeral was held Sunday, followed by entombment in the mausoleum at Hills of Eternity cemetery.

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FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1943

The Pacific Front

In a series of articles which has appeared in the *Examiner* this week, written by Maj. Gen. David P. Barrows, who is a former president of the University of California, has been discussed the military situation in the Pacific islands, the apparent plans of the Japanese, and the policy of the United States in that area as thus far revealed.

Touching upon the African front, General Barrows, in the Tuesday installment of his articles (which were not then complete) stated: "Just how soon the United States can overcome the Axis forces in Tunisia must remain uncertain for at least a little longer. If the over-all concerted attack is now under way, we should know pretty soon how far it will go." He then continued:

"There is another victory that we must gain before we can send a great army across the Atlantic and land it on European soil, and this is the victory over the submarine. That victory still waits—and may wait long.

"Now these two enforced delays, if they prove to be actual and unavoidable, allow us time for something else without deviation from the commitments we have made to help the war in Europe, and which we must discharge.

"If it is impossible for us to participate heavily and adequately in 1943 on the European front, may we not without abbreviating or minimizing our preparations thereto, take advantage of the interval to strike with power at Japan? We have the air force with which to augment enormously the air power of General MacArthur and it has been demonstrated what it can do. It is the most mobile of all weapons.

"Strange as it may seem, it appears far safer to send Army divisions six to seven thousand miles across the South Pacific than to send the same troops half this distance across the Atlantic, whose middle and southern waters are still terrorized by the German submarine.

"Is there not some way in which Washington can be brought to see the Pacific picture and at least consider the possibilities of an assault upon the Japanese position for this summer?"

What Ho, Standard Oil?

Standard Oil has made a great to-do about offering its buna rubber patents to the entire industry for royalty-free use after the war.

Those who can remember a ways will recall that Standard Oil entered into a pact with I. G. Farbenindustrie, the great German dye trust, about these patents.

If common use of these patents is permitted, by what device will Standard continue to rule the roost and what will be the relation of the German dye trust?

"Ever since those mad days of the 'Oil Trust' and of Colorado Fuel and Iron, it has paid to keep a weather eye on what Standard Oil had up its sleeve," reminds the International Labor News Service. "In this present proposal there *might* be a whole big sleeve full that doesn't meet the naked eye. Labor cannot fail to be vitally interested."

As a matter of fact, why shouldn't labor have its own special commission to keep constant check on evolving plans for the rubber industry of the future. It involves more than a hatful of jobs!

Labor Is Doing a Job

Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox recently praised "the will of American workmen" for their record-breaking production jobs in shipyards and factories of America. Predicting great progress in the naval construction program for 1943, Secretary Knox stated:

"During this year the Navy will reap its first major harvest from the planning and work instituted nearly three years ago. We have passed the days of blueprints and plans; the days of preparation and patient waiting are over. From now on, each week will mark the addition of new and powerful combat ships to the fleet. Each day will mark the addition of scores of deadly naval planes. Each hour will add guns and shells to our arsenals by hundreds of thousands. The number of warships will more than double; combat planes will more than treble."

It thus appears that in spite of what "they" said about working men and women indulging in absenteeism; in spite of attempts of anti-labor columnists and congressmen; even while daily newspapers of the country were filled with attacks on labor—union and nonunion—the working people have been quietly going about their job.

And their job, right now, is to produce all the guns, tanks, planes and ships our fighting men need to crush Hitler in Europe and Hirohito in Asia. And with labor behind our soldiers—union labor, if you please—the job will be done and quickly, in spite of tactics of some of our fascist-minded industrialists.

Why Workers Get Cash Loans

Reasons for borrowing money from small loan agencies have changed materially under war conditions. So also have the size of average loans changed. Reports of loan companies show that loan averages now run way under $100 and that most loans are for actually necessitous purposes.

Currently men and women borrow to pay doctors, to visit sick relatives, to pay dentists and for similar emergency purposes. Lack of things to buy, added to Federal Reserve Board regulations, have cut off loans for instalment purchases almost to the vanishing point. Loans for tax payments form a relatively small item.

Accidents Help Our Enemies

Casualties to the U. S. armed forces since Pearl Harbor were 12,123 dead, 15,049 wounded and 51,063 missing or prisoners or interned—a total of 78,235. These figures are from the latest report of the Office of War Information, released April 24.

Casualties to American workers through accidents since Pearl Harbor were 64,500 dead and 6,000,000 injured, on and off the job. These figures are from the National Safety Council.

The total American toll, workers and others, since Pearl Harbor is 128,000 killed and approximately 13,000,000 injured, the Council said. Among the victims were thousands of skilled workers and key men in the nation's war program who cannot be replaced.

SPONSOR YUGOSLAV RELIEF FUND

The United Yugoslav Relief Fund, sponsored by the American Friends of Yugoslavia, Inc., with headquarters at 11 West Fifty-seventh street, New York City, has announced the formation of a Labor Division under the sponsorship of Irving Abramson, T. C. Cashen, David Dubinsky, William Green, Sidney Hillman, Philip Murray and Matthew Woll. Emil Rosenberg is the director of the Labor Division.

Have you donated blood to the Blood Bank?

Barney Ross in Appeal To War Plant Workers

Sergeant Barney Ross, U.S.M.C.R., the man who talks to war workers the way Rickenbacker didn't, praised America's soldiers of producticon at the start of his tour of war plants. "You are helping deliver the punch that will one day knock the Japs clear out of the ring," he told cheering thousands at a mid-west factory who heard him speak.

Sergeant Ross, the former holder of three world boxing titles and still a real champ, is on a tour under the sponsorship of the Navy's Industrial Incentive Division.

Workers' Spirit "Wonderful"

"The spirit of you men and women in the war plants is wonderful—amazing," he declared. "Every hour you put in here to turn out the weapons of war means an hour closer to victory for America. Keep it up!"

Sergeant Ross, the Marine, killed twenty-two Japs on Guadalcanal and was wounded with shrapnel and stricken with malaria.

Sergeant Ross, who knows that without the goods being turned out by war workers at home he might not have been able to get his Japs, is spending his time now thanking these workers and praising them on to even greater efforts.

Believe They Will Win

"Those kids who went into the big ring on Guadalcanal and fought so hard to have things the American way, the right way—God's way—believe that they are going to win this fight once and for all. If they believe it, after all they have been through, we back home certainly ought to believe it and do everything we know how to show them that we are not just betting on them, but will get in there and do some slugging ourselves," he said.

With workers gathered around him, Ross told of the fighting on Guadalcanal and how much it meant to feel that men and women in factories at home were working just as hard to supply the material to back up the men hacking their way through Pacific jungles to get at and kill the enemy.

Sergeant Ross, whose only "program" is "Good work, boys, keep it up," is going on to other war factories to spread his cheering words to war workers.

WHO CAN TOP THIS ONE?

Loren L. Randall, a member of the Machinists' Union (A.F.L.), employed in the Lockheed airplane plant at Los Angeles, has been on the job every day for four years and two months. During the last seventeen months, since America has been at war, Randall has neither been absent nor tardy.

STOCK MARKET "AS USUAL"?

A press report stated that in one of the fastest market sessions since early 1940, stocks generally reached 3-year peaks last Tuesday, with gains of fractions to 2 points despite heavy profit taking on the rise. Dealings slackened after a fast morning, but the day's aggregate reached 2,805,294 shares.

ADOLPH, GET THIS ONE!

The Second War Loan drive brought in about $17,000,000,000 or around $4,000,000,000 more than the goal, and most of it came from non-banking sources. Banking houses were limited to $5,000,000,000 participation. Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau expressed satisfaction at the success of the drive, which ended at midnight last Saturday.

AN ALLOY TOUGHER THAN STEEL

General Electric metallurgists have developed an alloy tougher than steel. It has withstood tests at 1100 degrees Fahrenheit, a temperature at which ordinary steel would break. Its use in place of expensive steel may make possible higher operating temperatures for steam turbines. The alloy is composed of three parts of the little-used element columbium, and 97 parts of iron.

"Bitter and Paradoxical Truth" on Price Control

By PHILIP PEARL, In A.F.L. News Service

The Government of the United States is using its strong right arm to prevent inflation while its left hand is busily engaged in creating inflation. This is the bitter and paradoxical truth which faces the workers of our country today.

It's time we quit pulling our punches and exposed the facts. Not out of a desire to be critical, but in an effort to be practical we must speak out.

The harsh truth is that the Office of Price Administration has failed dismally in its duty to control prices and has never made the slightest effort to roll back prices in accordance with the instructions given by President Roosevelt in his executive order.

The blame for this failure rests in the first place on Prentiss M. Brown, O.P.A. Administrator. Mr. Brown, however, may not be entirely at fault. Let's look at the record.

Brown Succeeds Henderson

Mr. Brown, a former Senator from Michigan, was appointed to head the O.P.A. after Leon Henderson had resigned under pressure. We did not consider Mr. Henderson an effective price administrator but the record shows he was active enough in his job to incur the displeasure of powerful business interests who resented any government interference with their determination to charge whatever the traffic would bear for food and other necessities of life.

Much of the criticism of Henderson emanated from a group in Congress who are the self-appointed spokesmen for business interests. This congressional bloc made Henderson's life miserable with constant caterwaulings against the shortcomings of O.P.A.

As his successor, the President chose a lame duck Senator who had loyally supported Administration policies. Thus the appointment was considered political. But the real political nature of the appointment was the fact that it was intended to appease the congressional critics of Henderson's price control policies.

"Mandate to Butter Up"

Naturally, when Brown took office he felt he had a mandate to butter up to the high-pressure opponents of price control. He made the rafters ring with denunciations of inflation and assailed wage increases with all the vigor of a Texas congressman, to the delight of the Tory press. At the same time he proceeded to relax ceilings on prices wherever and whenever the business interests involved howled loudly enough.

In other words, Brown sought to become popular with the profiteers. In that way he thought he could take the heat off the O.P.A.

To carry out his objective, Brown appointed assistants who represented private business interests and ignored the protests of the labor members of his advisory council.

The result has been a continuous procession of price increases accompanied by an equally serious deterioration in the quality of the products sold.

Thus the O.P.A. has betrayed the interests of the American people and has injured the nation's war effort.

Politics with Prices

As we indicated before, however, the blame does not fall entirely upon Brown. His superiors share the responsibility. They should have made it clear to Brown that his function was not to play politics with prices but to hold prices down and keep them down, regardless of the squawks of profiteers

Labor has been patient thus far but it is now deeply aroused over the farcical performances of the O.P.A.

The workers of America find themselves caught in a fatal squeeze. The Government has placed rigid ceilings on wage increases, even where the increase in the cost of living makes pay adjustments necessary to enable workers to get along. At the same time the Government has by devious and hypocritical methods lifted the lid on prices, especially food prices. Many basic articles of food are now away out of the reach of the American worker's pocketbook.

Complete Overhauling Necessary

This situation calls for action. It calls for a complete overhauling of O.P.A. policies. It calls for a stern directive from President Roosevelt to arrest the runaway cost of living and to roll back prices to where they belong.

It is doubtful whether Brown is the man to do this job. It is doubtful whether he can accomplish a complete about-face and save face. The people of this country have lost confidence in the O.P.A. during his administration.

Labor's position is clear. It wishes to avert and prevent inflation by any and every possible means, even if it hurts. Labor is willing and has been willing to accept strict wage stabilization. But it insists that wage stabilization be accompanied by strict price stabilization. Otherwise, the workers of this country will consider themselves double-crossed.

WOMEN'S PAY RATES EQUALIZED

Over 500 companies have equalized rates paid to women with rates paid to men for comparable work under the authority of the National War Labor Board's general order which permits such wage or salary adjustments without prior W.L.B. approval.

WHO'S STRIKING HERE?

The Los Angeles area was facing a potato famine early this week. According to an official of the Produce Dealers' Association, the situation resulted from an announcement by the O.P.A. that it would enforce maximum price regulation of 18 cents per hundredweight against truckers hauling produce to the Los Angeles markets. On Tuesday, it was reported that only 1000 sacks of potatoes arrived from Kern county, in comparison with 10,800 sacks on the previous Saturday and 13,900 on Friday.

War Vacation Policy

Vacations for war workers—considered essential by the Government—should be spent as near home as possible, the Office of War Information said in a summary of the vacation policies of six principal production agencies.

In addition to its no-unnecessary travel policy, the Office of Defense Transportation has asked business and industry to begin and end all employees' vacations on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays, and to schedule vacations throughout the year.

C. D. Manual Has Plea For Labor Representation

Problems of state, federal and local laws relating to civilian protection, which have been increasingly important to organized labor, are covered in detail by a new manual prepared for the Office of Civilian Defense by the American Bar Association.

The publication, "Legal Aspects of Civilian Protection" includes information on the powers and duties of O.C.D., the authority and organization of various types of defense councils, the problem of liability for injury to civilian defense workers, and many other legal questions of significance to labor unions and members participating in protection and mobilization of the home front.

One section recommended by the O.C.D. and included in the manual prepared by the Bar Association, contains an important supplement which declares that it is "highly desirable" to include on local defense councils persons active in "labor, consumer protection and minority group" fields.

A copy of the manual has been sent by the O.C.D. to the national labor organizations, state labor bodies, and international unions. Additional copies can be secured, at 35 cents each, through the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

Physically Handicapped Make Good in Industry

"Indication that men and women in the armed forces who return scarred by war may, despite their handicaps, be able to earn a good living, can be seen in the steadily rising number of war jobs now filled satisfactorily by physically disabled workers," declares Miss Mary Anderson, of the U. S. Women's Bureau, Department of Labor, whose agents in a recent survey of war plants in an eastern industrial area found a growing number of handicapped women workers.

"More and more employers, faced with labor shortage, have been trying out disabled individuals in a variety of jobs and finding their performance up to, if not better than standard," Miss Anderson says. A blind girl, for instance, using "go-no-go" gauges in a plant making guns and small shells has topped the record on the job.

In War Plant Positions

War workers listed by the Women's Bureau include cardiacs doing office work, cripples doing assembly and adjustment of small-instrument parts or installation and fabrication in the electrical department, hard-of-hearing and deafened doing machine operating, and blind workers on inspection and checking. A girl with artificial legs can be an excellent stenographer, a blind girl may be a dictaphone or switchboard operator, or an older woman in a wheelchair may sort rivets that hold airplane parts together.

In a factory where blind workers make ends for boxes, seeing-eye dogs are parked near their work places. When the bell rings for rest periods, the dogs jump up at once, and when the quitting bell rings the dogs drag their masters to the time cards and out of the door so fast that the rest of the workers can hardly keep up with them.

Safety Protection

When hard-of-hearing or deaf workers are employed, they wear bright colored arm-bands so that when they are away from their machines other workers may warn them of trucks stealing up on them when they wouldn't hear the horn, or of other warning sounds which they would miss.

In the repair of airplanes a midget and her brother are proving useful for crawling into the wings, and often it is possible for repairs to be made with their aid that otherwise would necessitate tearing out a larger part of the plane.

"Manpower needs are breaking down the hesitation of employers and giving crippled, blind and other persons their longed-for opportunity to have a share in the war effort," Miss Anderson stated.

PASTOR DEFIANT ON TAX

Failure to pay its Victory Tax threatens the Marquette Road Baptist church in Chicago with seizure by the Government. Its pastor, Rev. George Lewis, said if a government closure notice was placed on the church, he personally would remove it. Revenue agents told the pastor that under the law the church was subject to seizure if the Victory Tax on his salary and those of his assistant, and the janitor, were not forthcoming.

RELIEF SUPPLIES TO RUSSIA

Relief shipments to the Soviet Union left American ports in the first quarter of this year at the rate of $1,000,000 a month, the San Francisco War Chest announced this week. The report indicated that medical supplies, clothing, knit goods, food and seeds shipped between January 1 and March 31 were valued at $3,000,104. Supplies in transit, on hand awaiting shipment, purchase commitments, and records of previous shipments totaled $4,915,659 as of March 31. This work is being conducted by Russian War Relief, one of the organizations supported by San Franciscans through the last War Chest appeal.

Local Unions Called Upon to Aid in Making Known Their Members' Accomplishments in War Service

The *American Federationist*, official monthly publication of the American Federation of Labor announces that it will henceforth devote two or more pages to photographs and brief descriptions of trade union members—women as well as men—who have left their peacetime pursuits and are now wearing the uniform of Uncle Sam.

And the A.F.L. is calling upon all its affiliates to give every aid possible in making the plan successful. It is pointed out that vicious and untruthful anti-labor propaganda is being widely circulated, and that two or three pages each month of photographs of loyal trade union members who are risking their lives for humanity and American principles will go far in refuting the false assertions and sly innuendos of union labor's enemies.

It is requested that every effort be made to secure and rush to the *Federationist* "a sharp, glossy photograph of any member, in uniform, who is now in the service and who has won some sort of recognition for an unusual feat or contribution on the field of battle or elsewhere. We're interested even if he's merely won his wings or sergeant's chevrons."

It is further asked that with the photograph there be forwarded 100 or 150 words giving the person's name, rank, name and number of his union, length of time a member of the union, length of time in service, and any other pertinent information that will enable the *Federationist* staff to prepare a short descriptive article to accompany the picture.

Group pictures may be published occasionally if they make a significant point in relation to trades union members' participation in the war, but the individual photos and stories will be given preference —those of soldiers, sailors, nurses, WAACS, WAVES and other related service branches.

Send all material to the *American Federationist*, Room 209, A.F.L. Building, Washington, D. C.

Regional Labor Board Policy

Representatives of companies and unions who are to appear before the Tenth Regional War Labor Board for hearings, are to be given in advance a copy of the staff analysis or panel report in the case whenever the board deems it necessary or advantageous, it is announced by the R.W.L.B.

The data upon which the tri-partite board is to base its decision is to be given to the parties to the hearing to afford them a chance to study the report and when necessary to make corrections of facts or pertinent additions, it was explained by Chairman Neblett, adding that this procedure will give the board more information when it considers the case.

Advice from State Federation

The office of the California State Federation of Labor has forwarded to central labor and building trades councils a communication directing attention to an organization known as the "Fathers of Fighters."

In reference to the group the communication says: "Although this organization claims to be concerned with the war effort and will oppose labor and management if either side interferes with the war effort, we have it on good authority that it is essentially and mainly an anti-labor organization."

It is further stated that the group has been responsible for the initiation of publicity seeking to discredit organized labor, and the Federation's communication advises its affiliates to be on guard.

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Coast Shipyard Workers To Seek New Wage Scale

Increased wages for Pacific Coast shipyard workers will be sought at a conference in this city May 17, the Pacific Coast Metal Trades Council announced this week.

Al Wynn, secretary of the council, said invitations to the meeting had been sent to shipyard operators, the Army, Navy, U. S. Maritime Commission and the Federal Shipbuilding Stabilization Committee.

Wynn said the increase to be sought had not yet been decided upon. "We want to get together with everybody concerned and see what can be worked out," he continued. "On the request of President Roosevelt, we took an 8-cent-an-hour increase instead of a 13-cent boost," Wynn pointed out. "Since that time living costs have gone up and we feel we are entitled to an increase now."

Winning the War

To win the War at the earliest possible moment is the ambition of every person in these United States. ★ The Banks are putting their shoulders to the wheel! ★ It is the opinion of the Banks that the most valuable contribution they can make is in the promotion and sale to the public of War Bonds. ★ This they have been doing with outstanding success throughout the past year. ★ We are proud to be playing an important part in this vital undertaking.

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Radio Address by Meany On Food Price Situation

In a nation-wide broadcast, George Meany, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, called upon President Roosevelt to order the Office of Price Administration to "roll back" retail food prices to the levels of May 15, 1942.

Branding price control as "a miserable failure," the A.F.L. official quoted actual prices of basic foodstuffs in American cities today in support of his assertion. He named foods which have increased in price 100 per cent or more since January, 1941, and one which had soared to 275 per cent advance. In his address, which was broadcast by the Mutual system, Meany further stated, in part:

Prices Must Be "Rolled Back"

"Holding the present line on food prices is not enough. The American people are already over their heads. Prices on food staples must be rolled back.

"Can we expect this to be done under the present governmental policy? Obviously not! According to the senior assistant to the Director of O.P.A., in a remark of three or four days ago, there is nothing in the President's hold-the-line executive order of April 8 to prevent price adjustments. This statement was evidently made to appease certain food producers by indicating that the President's order did not prevent O.P.A. from allowing prices to go even higher than they are today."

After referring to the fact that American labor is producing war weapons and material "at the fastest rates ever attained," Secretary Meany continued:

The Housewife's Only Alternative

"The cost of food generally, has doubled in the past two years. What does this mean to the American worker and to his wife and family? It means that the American housewife, confronted with such sky-high prices and desiring to discharge her responsibility of keeping the war workers in her family nourished so that they can produce for victory, has no alternative but to pass up the foods which are essential to a balanced diet but which are now beyond the reach of the average family's pocketbook."

Meany conceded that many workers are now earning more than they formerly made, but emphasized that millions "have received no increase in pay in the last three years, or have received purely nominal increases amounting to 3 or 5 cents an hour, or $1.50 to $2 per week." The average pay envelope for all manufacturing industries, including the war industries, holds only $41 each week, he said.

Definite Action Required

The A.F.L. official very pointedly asked that President Roosevelt, under his wartime powers, issue an executive order to the O.P.A. "not stating in general terms that food prices should be held down, but stating in definite, specific terms that retail food prices must be rolled back within a definite, specific period of time to the levels which prevailed on May 15, 1942."

"Only in this way," the speaker said in conclusion, "can the American worker be assured that he will be unhampered in his efforts to perform the tasks that he is not only willing to do but that he is anxious to do—to produce all the weapons of war that our nation needs for final and complete victory."

BOOSTS COAST STEEL MILLS

A resolution urging decentralization of the steel industry so more blast furnaces and mills may be located on the Pacific Coast was adopted last Monday by the Assembly on the motion of Assemblyman Edward Gaffney, San Francisco.

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NEW FUNERAL HOME AND CHAPEL

Labor Paved Road for F. D. R. in Mexico

By CHESTER M. WRIGHT, Editor, International Labor News Service

Sometimes you have to go far back to get at the roots of the flowers that bloom today.

That's how it is with the amazing trip of Franklin Delano Roosevelt to Monterrey, Mexico, and his talks with Avil Camacho, the President of the Good Neighbor to the south.

The roots lie in the soil that labor fertilized, with the backing of Woodrow Wilson, back in that other war.

Cultivation by labor has continued ever since. It can be doubted, in all seriousness, whether the Roosevelt trip could have been such a success, had it not been for the pioneering done by the organized workers on both sides of the international boundary.

Labor Makes Its Start

When that other war broke out, Venustiana Carranza was President of Mexico and he was definitely pro-Woodrow Wilson and with the active co-operation of the Creel committee, which was the government propaganda agency of that day, the American Federation of Labor sent its men into Mexico. Not many today will even know the men who went. But those who knew the names, James Lord and John Murray, will recall the job done in that earlier period.

The A.F.L. men didn't go to see government officials. They found the men of organized labor below the border. They found a young man named Luis Morones and a group of his compatriots. Whatever debt the United States may owe any other man of any other nation, it can never repay to Luis Morones the debt it owes him for his work in helping to create and maintain a genuine good neighbor relation. These men didn't use the term, but they had the reality and they knew it for what it was.

"We Want Nothing"

American Federation of Labor men were the first to go to Mexico and say, "We want nothing that is yours except your friendship. Let us work together in mutual trust and understanding."

In the days of that other war the A.F.L., through an adjunct organization, printed a Spanish-English newspaper on the Texas border and shipped it into Mexico in enormous quantities, there to be broadcast by the men of the budding Mexican labor movement. It carried the message of friendship. More than any other factor, labor forced a turning in Mexico from suspicion toward friendship.

It must be understood and remembered that the Mexican revolution was fought with the help of organized labor in Mexico. Not the organization of today, but the fruit of its time and place. There was then the Casa del Obrero Mundial (House of the Workers of the World). Its philosophy grew out of the syndicalist philosophy of Spanish labor. But it entered into a signed compact with the leaders of the military revolution. This compact recognized a mutuality of aims between labor and the revolution and that mutuality of aim continues to this day. Those who do not know this are without a knowledge that leads to much understanding of today's Mexico.

The "CROM" Begins Life

And as that other war approached, this pioneer movement turned into the Mexican Federation of Labor (the "C.R.O.M."), today a sound and influential organization, but in the latter '30s surpassed in numbers by its left-wing rival.

Just as that other war ended the C.R.O.M. and the A.F.L. took the lead in forming the Pan American Federation of Labor. Whatever may have been its shortcomings, the Pan American Federation carried on the work of building good neighborliness and resulted in more visiting back and forth, more exchange of views, more creation of understanding than any other effort, political, economic or anything else.

Roadway Had Been Built

President Roosevelt's great job didn't start from scratch. It started over a roadway built by organized labor, in the face of great odds, including the hostility and lack of understanding of some of its own membership. It continued even through that period in Mexico when the conflict with the church was at its height, slackened, but never stopped.

History must never be written in such a manner as to obscure this great and vital phase of the development of friendship between Mexico and the United States.

History must never neglect or forget the pioneer work done by Samuel Gompers, American labor's greatest leader.

Two Leaders Who Helped

Nor must history be so written as to forget the tremendous contribution made by those two Mexican Presidents, Plutarco Elias Calles and Alvaro Obregon. It was and perhaps still is a boast of Mr. Calles that he carried a card in the International Association of Machinists.

In the face of the tragic fact that under Wilson our Navy fired on Vera Cruz, these facts remain. The pioneering for the good neighbor policy was done by organized labor and with the help and encouragement of Woodrow Wilson. A great many American labor men helped, but without Gompers' far-seeing leadership they could not have had their chance. And so, as Franklin Delano Roosevelt went to call upon Avila Camacho in that great Mexican industrial center, lurking in the shadows of the mountains not far away were the shades of those who fought for understanding when the obstacles were great. They fought when American industrial and financial interests were intent upon plunder and exploitation. They did a great job and the fruit of today's effort is richer because of the cultivation which they toiled to bring about.

Pledge by President Camacho

One word more: Whatever were the pledges exchanged in Monterrey, Avila Camacho could have given no stronger word than he gave to me in an interview in the National Palace in Mexico City a year and a half ago, when he enabled me to return with the positive assurance that Mexico would march side by side with the United States in a brotherhood that would become a brotherhood in arms if needs be. In the company of Luis Morones and Bob Haberman that pledge was given. And how magnificently it has been kept!

[EDITOR'S NOTE—Readers of the LABOR CLARION will recall several articles written by Mr. Wright, on the occasion of his Mexican trip above referred to, which were published in this paper and recited impressions of his visit.]

"Tyrants have not yet discovered any chains that can fetter the mind."—*C. C. Colton.*

"Absentee" Propaganda Gets Jolt in New Survey

The artificially-created scare over "absenteeism" which was current for some time has been shelved in recent weeks by the anti-labor forces. In addition to many of its "arguments" having been proved fallacious for propaganda purposes, its ballyhooers evidently concluded that John L. Lewis and the miners would provide better "copy" for their immediate purpose of smearing labor.

However, "absenteeism" was given a parting blow by Secretary of Labor Perkins. She released results of a nation-wide check of war plants which showed that absences from work amount to an average of only 5.4 per cent, or slightly more than one day out of 20. Especially significant is the fact that this rate is only half that prevailing in Great Britain.

Co-operate to Solve Problem

It is particularly encouraging, the Labor Secretary added, that absenteeism is being successfully combatted where management, labor and government officials co-operate in solving the problem.

Her survey, she said, showed that "wilful absenteeism is almost negligible." Layoffs that did occur were found due almost entirely to illness, accidents, transportation difficulties, poor housing, bad nutrition, lack of child care facilities and similar factors. Poor production planning by management and material shortages were also described as a "serious cause of absenteeism. These are problems which the individual worker alone cannot solve," she made clear.

Remedies Being Applied

Progressive plants have gone into action, with labor's help, to clean up the causes of absenteeism, the Secretary of Labor's report emphasized. Such plants, the report said, have strong safety and health programs, good plant cafeterias and lunch carts, reasonable working hours and vacations with pay. They also have built good housing for the workers, or have supported construction of private or public housing projects, it was explained. Many of them have "transportation co-ordinators" who see to it that workers get proper transportation to their jobs.

ASKS FUNDS FOR SHASTA DAM

President Roosevelt this week asked Congress to provide $16,400,000 to expedite completion of the Shasta dam and power plant of the Central Valley project. The work yet to be done includes installation of two generating units and transmission and switching facilities for which authority has been granted by the War Production Board.

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Run o' the Hook

By FRED E. HOLDERBY
President of Typographical Union No. 21

An Associated Press dispatch under date of April 29 announces the death in Phoenix, Ariz., of Francis M. ("Hiball") de Crocker at the age of 66, as the result of a heart attack. The passing of "Hiball" de Crocker takes from our ranks another of those old-time tourist printers who, known and loved by members of the printing fraternity throughout the jurisdiction of the International Typographical Union, rendered signal service in establishing conditions which have made the Typographical Union the great organization it is today. It is around nine years ago since he "passed through" San Francisco, and the last years of his life were spent in the Southwest. He was a native of Albion, Mich., and a graduate of the University of Michigan.

D. H. Mason of the commercial branch, who for the past few weeks has been located in the East Bay, bid good-bye to his friends at headquarters on Tuesday prior to leaving for Seattle for active duty in Uncle Sam's Army. Mason, a veteran of World War I, has received a major's commission.

Albert Springer, proprietor member, and secretary of the Union Printers' Mutual Aid Society, has been ill for several weeks as the result of a nervous breakdown and severe heart attack.

L. M. ("Luke") Lansberry of the Rotary Colorprint chapel, who had offered his services for the Navy, passed a physical which gave him 100 per cent, and is leaving on Monday for San Diego, where he will enter the Marine Corps.

The two old "No. 9's" which have been the subject of discussion by machinists and operators of the *Examiner* chapel for many years are being replaced by brand new Intertypes. Jack Domergue is now head machinist of the *Examiner*.

R. A. Griffin has resigned the foremanship of Crocker-Union, which he has held the past year, and R. L. Wall is now in charge of the composing room.

News Chapel Notes—By L. L. Heagney

Writing to a friend here, Johnny Dow relates that he was watching the vegetables grow in his Victory Garden when a telegram from Los Angeles arrived informing him he and Mrs. Dow had become grandparents. The little stranger reached this country on April 27, weighed 6 pounds 12 ounces, and her parents have named her Joanne Dow Johnson. A year or so ago Johnny retired to start ranching near Cave Junction, Ore., but he maintains contact with printers regularly via the U. S. mail.

The heirs and heiresses gathered around Tuesday and waited for the estate to be divided—what is technically known among us financiers as "cutting the melon." It's really a most pleasurable sensation to be an heir—the way people cater to you and the way one can enter the corner hashhouse and order the girl to fetch that baloney souffle and make it snappy. Well sir, we got the back pay Tuesday, also spent it—Tuesday.

The way Bob May figures it, purchase and modernization of city carlines at the recent election would have been calamitous. If the town owned and speeded up transportation, he'd have to manufacture another alibi for not getting home on time.

Some of the force discussed the matter of what to get for "Chuck" Adams' birthday present, and as a final proposition one suggested a book. But Joe Sullivan demurred, saying, "Chuck's already got a Racing Form!"

That tire-ration regulations have been liberalized Harold Krueger proved to others as well as himself. The tire inspector readily agreed his rubber lacked gentility, in fact looked downright shabby, and gave him an order for three new and two recaps, only stipulation being that Harold use the order within 30 days.

At last Jack Bengston of the Navy found out where he was going when he got there—a sort of traveling he doesn't especially mind. But he does think the Navy should see to it the breweries in his new home make beer. Their stuff reminds him of prohi days—like he got in San Francisco.

Takes our boys time to forget the old home town and to recover from homesickness, as can be read between the lines in Lou Montarnal's letter to Chairman Abbott thanking him for mailing a carton of cigarettes this chapel ordered sent periodically to men in the service. On leave from Camp McCain, La., Lou journeyed to Memphis, Tenn., and most signally failed to find a restaurant that served French dinners.

Knowledge of printing helps to understand other crafts, so Howard Paul says in a letter to Chairman Abbott. Of those competing for admittance to the Coast Guard's machinist school at San Diego, four won, Paul coming out top man. And instructors told him his grounding in typography assisted materially. Howard's become a booster for the Coast Guard, advising the gang here to join a white man's outfit, and adds, as further inducement, one gets all the sugar, coffee and meat that can be stowed away.

Of our vacationists, Harold Barker killed two weeks in Spokane, Bill Muir lolled on southern California beaches, and Lou Henno went to San Francisco.

Tuesday, on getting his back pay Bill Gobin in melancholy mood revealed that money talked to him in only two words—"Good-bye."

It's really not understandable why folks say a fellow is a hard drinker when it's the easiest thing a guy can do, so Jay Palmiter says.

Golf News—By Fred N. Leach

Do yon have your calendar marked up for that May tournament? It is scheduled for Sunday, May 30, and will be held at El Camino golf course, down Millbrae way. Tee time has been set for 10:30. There will be 18 holes medal at handicap, a hole-in-one contest, and a guest flight. There also will be the second round of the match play cup championship. We are promised a good time by the El Camino management, and as it is the first "strange" course the Association has played in some time, all should find it enjoyable. Information is that El Camino is in A-1 condition, and it has that necessary quality of being close-in to San Francisco.

The regular monthly meeting of the board of directors and officers will be held Monday night, May 17, at 235 Twenty-fifth avenue. At this meeting, plans for the annual tournament will be discussed. As everyone no doubt realizes, difficulties may present themselves this year. First, it may not be possible, in face of the rationing, to have a dinner; second, the usual awards may not be procurable. The Association's financial status is good, but it may be a case of not being able to procure the articles for awards. If any member has suggestions, the board will be glad to consider them. You will be welcome at the meeting, but if you have a suggestion, and cannot attend, drop a line to the secretary, at 235 Twenty-fifth avenue, San Francisco, or phone Bayview 0793.

OFF THE FAIRWAY—Here's some of the talk about their matches which are coming up on May 30. Charlie Forst: "I play Ron Cameron—what a push over!" Ron Cameron: "He's a braw lad, that Charlie, but he can no play gawf." Art Linkous: "So it's Paul Gallagher—never heard of him—whoever did?" Paul Gallagher: "Any 20-handicap man is a cinch for me." Vic Lansberry: "If I only had him on Richmond, I'd feel safe." . . . Al Cantor, after mopping up again at Sharp on Saturday, said: "They should have me in that match play tournament. I'd be a cinch!"

Labor Bill Signed

The Maloney bill (A. B. 516), which exempts labor unions from the provisions of the Insurance Code which would otherwise require them to incorporate if they paid benefits to their members, was signed by Governor Warren this week. A long fight against the required incorporation of such unions was waged unrelentingly by the California State Federation of Labor since the passage of A. B. 1400 at the session of the Legislature two years ago.

Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

A correction: Previous information reaching the writer, and which was published in this column last week, concerning the illness of George Spooner, veteran member and officer of San Francisco Printing Pressmen's Union No. 24, has proved to be an error. George has fully recovered from a minor ailment, which confined him to his home for a week, and is now back on the job with his characteristic energy and enthusiasm.

Otto G. Lepp, of Milwaukee Mailers' Union, reports the Milwaukee mailers' resolution has been indorsed by 170 unions. Otto also says the management of the Cueno firm has offered the union an increase of 5 cents per hour which, if accepted by the union, will make its commercial scale $1.10 per hour.

"Jim" Molloy is acting "chief skipper" of the mailing room of the *Wall Street Journal* during the absence of Foreman George Cheney, who is confined at home by illness, but from which he is reported as being convalescent.

Return Those Empty Bottles

Faced with the danger of a milk, beverage and beer container shortage this summer, housewives, war workers and others are being asked to search their homes for returnable bottles.

Sponsored by the bottler and dairy groups, with retail grocers and chain store organizations participating, the campaign seeks to uncover millions of deposit bottles hidden in cellars, attics, tool houses, garages and myriad other places.

There is urgent need, it is declared, for returnable bottles of all types, including containers for beverages, milk and beer, in order to satisfy the demand on both home and fighting fronts.

Heavy shipments of beverages are daily being made to overseas fighting fronts as well as to army and naval depots. Bottling association executives declare it is impossible for most of these containers to be returned.

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Anti-Labor Bills Signed By Minnesota Governor

Two bills imposing restrictions on unions have been signed by Governor Stassen of Minnesota, who ignored a flood of telegrams from labor organizations in the state urging him to use the veto.

Governor Stassen, who is now preparing to enter Army service, has been mentioned as a potential candidate for President on the Republican ticket. He was one of the guest speakers at last year's convention of the A.F.L. in Toronto.

One bill curtails the right to strike, requires election of union officers at regular intervals, directs unions to make financial reports to members, and provides for state dictation in settlement of jurisdictional disputes. Another bars unions from boycotting "scab" products made by agricultural processing plants.

In four other states—New Mexico, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut—all anti-labor bills were buried with the adjournment of the Legislatures.

In Michigan the Transportation Brotherhoods won enactment of a bill to require carriers to give employees itemized statements of all deductions from pay and of another to provide adequate shelter for trainmen, enginemen and yardmen.

Pennsylvania's Senate killed the Woodward bill which would have subjected unions to crippling regulations.

In Florida, last week, a campaign to outlaw closed shop agreements was stymied, at least temporarily, as a result of widespread protests by labor and other progressive elements. The "Associated Industries" and citrus industry magnates have been leading the drive for the legislation.

Pay Increase for School Teachers

Annual increases of $200 for teachers in the San Francisco public schools were voted by the Board of Education this week. The new pay schedule will be in addition to automatic increases provided under tenure regulations.

Anti-Poll-Tax Bill Status

It was announced in Washington the latter part of last week that only twenty-five more signatures were needed on the petition which will take the pending anti-poll-tax bill out of the judiciary committee and bring it to the floor of the House for a vote. The move requires 218 signatures. The same procedure was used in the last session of Congress and when the vote was taken an overwhelming majority of the House approved the bill, but it lost through filibustering tactics in the Senate.

"BUDDY POPPY DAY"

Saturday, May 29, has been selected by the Veterans of Foreign Wars as "Buddy Poppy Day" for the 1943 sale throughout the nation of the well known emblem, in aid of relief which the organization carries on. This year will mark the twenty-first annual appeal made by the V.F.W.

Have you donated blood to the Blood Bank?

"Equal Rights" Bill Refused Passage

The innocent-appearing but extremely anti-labor "Equal Rights for Men and Women" bill, which regularly appears at each session, was again defeated in the California Legislature. This year's measure, A. C. A. 9, was refused adoption in the Assembly, after the opponents of the bill succeeded in having it amended so as to retain all existing and to-be-enacted-in-the-future protective legislation for women. It is significant that as soon as its teeth were extracted, the bill lost its supporters.

Local Labor Cases to W.L.B.

Among labor disputes announced this week as having been certified to the Tenth Regional War Labor Board was that of Retail Department Stores Employees No. 1100 with the Woolworth, Kress, and Newberry stores in San Francisco. It was stated the controversy involves new union contracts affecting 742 employees.

Another case certified to the board involved employees of the Bay bridge, who are members of Office Employees' Union No. 21320.

Senate Passes Anti-Strike Bill

The Senate last Wednesday passed an anti-strike and plant seizure bill by a vote of 63 to 16 after three days of what was reported to be bitter verbal battling. The bill was introduced by Connally of Texas.

Efforts of Majority Leader Alben Barkley of Kentucky to delay passage on the ground that the bill had not been given proper hearings by the judiciary committee and was being written on the floor, were beaten.

An amendment by Senator Wagner of New York, giving the labor board power to subpena witnesses, was adopted by voice vote.

A motion by Senator Wheeler of Montana to recommit the bill to committee for a report no later than May 20 was voted down, 52 to 27.

Committee Asked to Study Universal 48-Hour Week

Manpower Chief Paul V. McNutt stated last Monday that he had asked his labor-management committee to consider the feasibility of extending the President's 48-hour work-week order to cover all industries. At the same time he reported that a proposal for a nation-wide labor stabilization plan had been abandoned.

McNutt, who already has ordered a full 48-hour week for more than 525,000 steel workers beginning July 1, told a news conference that he had requested the committee to give consideration to whatever industries could be placed on the longer work-week nationally.

Progress Report by Nelson On "Incentive Payment"

The following appears in the A.F.L. News Service in reference to the subject of "incentive payments"—for war workers—one which has been under discussion for some time, though little has been given out concerning specific plans under discussion. Some apprehension has been expressed among labor union members lest, in taking advantage of war conditions, piece work, or so-called "efficiency" systems under various names, might be contemplated in one form or another. The News Service article states, in part:

Donald M. Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board, told Washington reporters that "we are making considerable progress" with the Management-Labor Council to work out an incentive payment program which would be acceptable to both groups.

W.P.B. has "never contemplated any general edict coming from Washington on incentive plans for all of industry," Nelson declared. "Whatever we have contemplated has been selected with respect to the type of industry, the need for it, and the ability of both workers and management to get along happily under it."

Thus far, he emphasized, discussions have been only in a preliminary stage and he expressed confidence that any suitable plan worked out would be accepted on a voluntary basis through labor and management at the plant level.

The rececntly established W.P.B. Management-Labor Council includes Presidents William Green of the A.F.L., Philip Murray of C.I.O., Eric Johnston of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Frederick Crawford of the National Association of Manufacturers, and one additional representative of each of the four organizations.



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S. F. Labor Council

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The Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m., at the Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committee meets every Monday, at 8 p. m. The Organizing Committee meets every Friday, at 7:30 p. m. The Union Label Section meets the first Wednesday of every month, at 7:30 p. m.

Synopsis of Meeting Held Friday, April 30, 1943.

Meeting called to order at 8 p. m. by Vice-President Haggerty.

Roll Call of Officers—All present, except President Shelley, who was excused.

Reading of Minutes—Minutes of previous meeting approved as printed in the LABOR CLARION.

Credentials—Referred to the organizing committee: Bakery Drivers No. 484, George Simmen. Civil Service Janitors No. 66-A, S. J. Charcho. Printing Pressmen No. 24, Arthur Sanford, Paul W. Van Zandt, Stephen Kane, Joseph Grimm, John Giordenango, Leo Ryan, Emil Elvander. Bookbinders and Bindery Women No. 31-125, Christine Mitchell. Pattern Makers, Paul Schendel, John Cassella, Edward Leslie, Walter Milestone. American Federation of Government Employees No. 634, Roe H. Baker. Miscellaneous Employees No. 110, Henry Paquet, Stelios I. Vakouras.

Report of the Organizing Committee—No report (no meeting).

Communications—*Filed:* Minutes of the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council dated April 15, 1943. The following unions replied to our letter of April 20 regarding the War Manpower Plan, stating that their membership, in regular meeting, has adopted this plan: Cleaning and Dye House Workers No. 7, Construction and General Laborers No. 261, Dental Laboratory Technicians No. 99, Elevator Operators No. 117, Steam Fitters No. 509, Waiters and Dairy Lunchmen No. 30. A communication was received from the Allied Printing Trades Council (Joseph P. Bailey, secretary-treasurer), stating that it had set up a committee, representing the nine affiliated unions of that Council, to make the War Manpower Plan effective within the printing and publishing industry of San Francisco. A telegram was received from Delegate Jack Depo of Building Service Employees No. 87 asking to be excused from the Labor Council executive committee meetings for a short time as he is stationed in Sacramento. A letter was read from Lodge 1327, International Association of Machinists (A. Ballerini, business manager), stating that the Les Logan Company, 530 Gough street, is soliciting organized labor for the sale of union buttons; this concern is anti-labor, and it is asked that we do not recognize them. D. V. Nicholson, campaign director, American Red Cross 1943 War Fund, acknowledging receipt of our check covering contributions. Jacobus tenBroek, president, National Federation of the Blind, acknowledging receipt of our check. Weekly News Letter from the California State Federation of Labor dated April 27, 1943. The following acknowledged receipt of our letter of April 5 inclosing copy of resolution adopted by Machinists' Union No. 68, regarding the food and transportation problem in the shipyards: William M. Boyle, secretary to Senator Truman; Hugh Fulton, chief counsel for the committee headed by Senator Truman; John T. Burke, liaison officer for the American Federation of Labor. Regarding the shipyard food supply communications, it was suggested that the secretary call a meeting of the shipyard food supply committee to determine the progress of their investigation to date.

Donations: The following contributions are for the *San Francisco War Chest:* Milk Wagon Drivers No. 226, $2500; Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Makers No. 1071, $750. The following contributions are for the 1943 *Red Cross Fund:* Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Makers No. 1071, $250; Miscellaneous Employees No. 110, $750 (bringing their total up to $1500 for the past two months); Candy and Glace Fruit Workers No. 158, $46.30 (additional payment); Coopers No. 65, $81; Photo Engravers No. 8, $125; Hatters No. 31, $10; Newspaper and Periodical Drivers and Helpers No. 921 are donating $5 per member, to be handled by their various employers (the total amount will be in the neighborhood of $1250); Automotive Machinists No. 1305, $250; Street Carmen, Division 1004, $2900; Cap Makers No. 9, $74.65; Blacksmiths and Helpers No. 168, $246 (this represents only a portion of the contributions, many of their members having turned in their donations direct through the employers); Beauticians No. 12, $25.

Bills were read and ordered paid, after being approved by the trustees.

Referred to the LABOR CLARION: Communication from William Green, president, American Federation of Labor, asking increased participation in the Pay Roll Savings Plan to meet the challenge of the April campaign to buy War Bonds. Edward D. Vandeleur, secretary, California State Federation of Labor, calling our attention to the formation of an organization known as the "Fathers of Fighters," which is an anti-labor organization, and we are not to be misled by their insincere and demagogic claims. The *American Federationist* asks the co-operation of all affiliated unions by sending in to them a sharp, glossy photograph of any member of your organization in uniform who is now in the service and who has won some sort of recognition for an unusual feat or contribution on the field of battle or elsewhere; individual rather than group photos of sailors, marines, soldiers, fliers, WAACS, WAVES, SPARS, nurses and others in the service will receive preference.

Referred to the Secretary: Apartment and Hotel Employees No. 14 (James Sturgeon, secretary), asking reduction of one in the union's delegation to the Council. Invitation from Governor Earl Warren to a meeting at Sacramento on Wednesday, May 5, 10:30 a. m., at the Senator hotel, regarding National War Fund, Inc.

Resolutions: A resolution was submitted by San Francisco Lodge No. 68, International Association of Machinists, regarding the bill known as H. R. 7, to repeal the Poll Tax and asking the Council to concur in same; motion, that the resolution be adopted; carried. A resolution was submitted from M. C. Hermann, chairman, Labor for Victory Day Committee, asking that we pledge our active participation in the fourth city-wide observance of American Citizenship Week, May 10 to 16, inclusive; motion, that the resolution be adopted; carried. [See text of the two resolutions elsewhere in this issue.]

Referred to the Executive Committee: A resolution was submitted by Optical Technicians and Workers No. 18791, calling upon the Office of Defense Transportation to effect the unification of San Francisco's three street railway systems, establishing a single fare, universal transfer, joint operation of all existing facilities and protection of the present conditions of the street railway workers. Motion, that the resolution be adopted, with inclusion of an amendment calling for a labor representative on such committee as has been set up. After some discussion it was regularly moved that the resolution and amendment be referred to the executive committee; motion to refer carried.

Report of the Executive Committee—(Meeting held Monday evening, April 19, 1943.) In the matter of Operating Engineers No. 64, requesting strike sanction against the Fox Theatre, 988 Market street, the secretary reported that a conference has been arranged with the management of this theatre to bring both parties together for the purpose of bringing about an adjustment. In the matter of the Sterling Furniture Company the sub-committee appointed by the executive committee presented its report as follows: "Present on behalf of the employer were Messrs. Wallace, Desmond and Fitzgerald. Present on behalf of Warehousemen's Union No. 860 was Brother White; and on behalf of the executive committee of the Council, Brothers Phillips and Johns. It was mutually agreed by the parties that any agreement worked out on this dispute shall be retroactive to that date when women replaced men on these jobs. It is further agreed that both sides shall avail themselves of the adjustment board machinery of their present contract and in the event of their failing to arrive at a mutual understanding, and in the event they cannot arrive at a mutually agreeable adjustment board chairman, then the selection of such chairman shall be referred to Mr. Neblett of the War Labor Board. Your sub-committee recommends that this matter be held in committee pending the outcome of this procedure. Respectfully submitted, (Signed) George W. Johns, sub-committee of the executive committee." The report of the executive committee as a whole was adopted.

Report of the Executive Committee—(Meeting held Monday evening, April 26, 1943.) In the matter of Laundry Workers No. 26, requesting strike sanction against the Mark Hopkins hotel, this matter was referred to the secretary to assist the Laundry Workers in trying to bring about an adjustment. In the matter of the resolution submitted by Delegate Kracke of California State Utility Laborers No. 1226 requesting the Council to go on record favoring the adoption of the "Post-War Plan" submitted by the National Resources Planning Board, Brother Kracke was present representing the union; he explained in detail the plan as submitted by the National Resources Planning Board, which was set up by President Roosevelt; your committee recommends that the Council indorse, in principle, the report of the National Resources Planning Board and to include an adequate system of health insurance. The report of the executive committee as a whole was adopted.

Delegate Butti announced that the South of Market Boys, following their yearly custom, will give a Mother's Day breakfast at the Palace hotel on Sunday, May 9, at 10:30 a. m. Every one is invited to sponsor someone in the Service for this breakfast.

Reports of Unions—Brother Reardon reported that Steam Fitters No. 590 have bought the Moose building at 1621 Market street, for $115,000 cash; they will be open there on Monday, May 10. Brother Isaacs of Elevator Operators No. 117 reported on their War Bond and Stamp "Queen" contest; this contest started out in a small way with thirty-two girl participants from the department stores and buildings; however, the co-operation of management and labor in the contest swelled the sale of bonds and stamps to $9,535,000, whereas this organization had originally set its goal at $100,000. Local 117 thanks the Labor Council and the LABOR CLARION for assistance in making this contest a success; the second round of the contest will last from April 28 to May 15.

Report of Delegate to Portland Conference (held Wednesday, April 21, 1943)—After having heard this report, the Labor Council went on record as unanimously concurring in the report. (See report in full elsewhere in this issue of the LABOR CLARION.)

The Chair announced that George Cullen, former secretary of the San Francisco local of the Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, passed away on April 28, 1943, and suggested that when the Council adjourn it do so out of respect to the late George Cullen; adopted, the delegates standing in silence.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p. m.

Receipts, $3515.15; **disbursements,** $3881.05.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

STATE PENSION INCREASE

The bill liberalizing the California pension law was sent to the Governor this week for his expected signature, when the Assembly by a vote of 69 to 4 concurred in minor amendments which had been made by the Senate. It will boost the basic monthly payments from $40 to $50 a month at the starting age of 65.

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Regional Labor Board's Report on Wage Cases

Approval or modified approval of 13 applications for wage increases was given by the Tenth Regional War Labor Board during the week ending April 24, with two applications denied. Two panel reports on dispute cases and three orders of the West Coast Aircraft Committee also were approved, Chairman Neblett announced in San Francisco this week.

Board approval in some cases was voted upon decisions of the Director of Wage Stabilization which had been made before April 8. That was the date upon which President Roosevelt issued the "hold the line" order, eliminating inequities and inequalities with other plants as a basis for granting wage increases.

Six more tri-partite panels completed hearings on dispute cases and made their reports for board approvals. The Wage Stabilization Division acted upon 17 applications, approving 9 wage increases and denying 8. Another 285 cases were transferred to the new Twelfth Region of the W.L.B., which includes Oregon and Washington.

During the week 282 new applications for wage adjustments were received, a big increase over 99 filed during the previous seven days.

Two of the panel hearings in dispute cases completed within the past few days have resulted in agreement of the unions and companies involved. In each case the parties then submitted a voluntarily agreed-upon wage scale for approval of the Wage Stabilization Director.

New Members of Harbor Board

Governor Warren this week named J. Ward Mailliard as president of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, to succeed J. F. Marias. Mailliard is a former president of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. At the same time W. G. Welt and Thomas Coakley were appointed to succeed Harry See and George Sehlmeyer, respectively, on the same board. Welt has for some years been the legislative representative of the Order of Railway Conductors.

"Truce" in Mine Strike

Twenty minutes before President Roosevelt was to deliver a radio address, last Sunday night, on the mine strike situation, John L. Lewis, head of the miners, issued a statement calling off the strike and instructing the miners to return to work Tuesday.

The instruction to the miners stated a "truce" of fifteen days had been agreed to, pending further negotiations, after the mines had been taken over by the Government under a presidential order, and placed under the direction of Secretary of the Interior Ickes.

In the meantime Secretary Ickes has issued an order for all the mines to be worked six days a week, which would give the miners an increase in pay.

Since the return of the miners to their employment considerable speculation has been indulged in by the daily press and others as to the eventual outcome of the controversy, under the Government's regime, and at the conclusion of the "truce." The probable "strategy" of both the miners and the Government is affording a wide field for such speculation.

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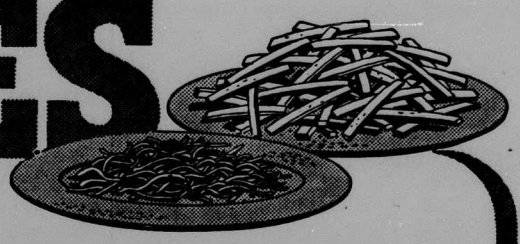
Secretary John A. O'Connell of the San Francisco Labor Council was in Sacramento, Wednesday, where he had been invited by Governor Warren to participate in a conference in relation to the National War Fund, Inc. In general, the purpose of the organization is to co-ordinate and supervise the appeals made throughout the nation for relief funds in behalf of various causes, including those of foreign nations, and it is understood contemplates a plan such as is in vogue in San Francisco and other cities pertaining to investigation and supervision of appeals by a responsible agency.

Kansas Law to Get Court Test

Kansas, which won fame in the World War I period with its Court of Industrial Relations (eventually tossed out the window by the courts) is in for a second test.

The state's new and drastic labor control law is headed for its own court testing. The Kansas City (Kan.) Building and Construction Trades Council and its secretary, Perrin D. McElroy, have filed suit, alleging that the law is unconstitutional in most of its sections. The law provides for licensing of unions, prohibits boycotts, jurisdictional strikes and several other union practices.

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GE16W-543

Labor Council Resolutions

As referred to in the minutes of the San Francisco Labor Council, appearing on page ten of this issue, the following resolutions were adopted by that body at its meeting held last Friday evening:

POLL TAX BILL IN CONGRESS

Whereas, There has been presented in Congress a bill, known as H. R. 7, to repeal the poll tax; and

Whereas, The poll tax is undemocratic because it discriminates in favor of the wealthier citizen and imposes an unjust burden on the poorer classes; and

Whereas, Representation in those states with the poll tax is not selected by all the people, contrary to the intention of our constitution; and

Whereas, This creates a situation in which a relatively small group of the wealthy in these poll tax states control and influence the national affairs for their own particular interest and against the interest and welfare of labor and the vast majority of our people; and

Whereas, This poll tax repeal bill, H. R. 7, needs the signatures of 218 congressmen to bring it on the floor of Congress; therefore be it

RESOLVED. That this organiaztion, Machinists' Lodge 68, International Association of Machinists, go on record as opposed to the poll tax and in support of H. R. 7; and further be it

RESOLVED, That we forward copies of this resolution to Congressmen Rolph and Welch, Senators Johnson and Downey; and further be it

RESOLVED, That we request Congressmen Welch and Rolph to sign the discharge petition now before the House of Representatives; and further be it

RESOLVED, That we present this resolution to the Central Labor Council for concurrence.

AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP WEEK

Whereas, A world-wide conspiracy of totalitarian nations is making a global attack on democratic America;

Whereas, The successful and vigorous conduct of the war toward the goal of unconditional surrender requires the utmost unity among the American people;

Whereas, American Citizenship Week provides a dramatic and significant opportunity for Americans of every race, creed and color to rededicate themselves to the responsibilities of American citizenship and American democracy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we do indorse and approve the action of the Board of Supervisors and of Hon. Angelo J. Rossi, Mayor of San Francisco, in setting aside the week of May 10 to 16 for the fourth annual observance of "American Citizenship Week" in San Francisco, and for the appropriate civic observance of this period centering around our country's battle to safeguard its liberty and to make the Four Freedoms of the Atlantic Charter—freedom of expression, freedom of worship, freedom from fear, and freedom from want—a world-wide reality; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, in recognition of our duty actively to support our war program and vigorously to emphasize the obligations of American citizenship, we hereby pledge our active participation in the fourth city-wide observance of American Citizenship Week and authorize our executive officers to arrange and to carry out all such activities as may be appropriate, practical and patriotic.

Welfare Commission Orders

The Industrial Welfare Commission of California has issued an announcement that two of its recent orders will not become effective until June 28. The orders are Nos. 4 and 5 N.S., and relate, respectively, to Technical, Professional and Clerical Occupations, and the Public Housekeeping Industry. Copies of the orders may be obtained at the office of the Division of Industrial Welfare, 515 Van Ness avenue, this city.

Juvenile delinquency has multiplied almost 500 per cent in France since the Nazi occupation, admitted Laval's Secretary of State, Rear Admiral Platon, in a newspaper article.

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A Correction

In last week's issue of the LABOR CLARION it was stated that Frank Murphy had been elected acting general president of the newly formed Alaska Territorial Federation of Labor. This was an error on the part of the A.F.L. News Service, which later sent out a correction stating that the general president of the Alaska Federation is Frank Marshall.

Death of George F. Cullen

George F. Cullen, a veteran and highly respected member of the San Francisco local of the Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, passed away on Wednesday of last week. The deceased had faithfully served his organization in various capacities, and was well known among older members of the local labor movement. He also was a member of the Federation of Municipal Employees. The meeting of the San Francisco Labor Council was adjourned in respect to his memory.

The immediate survivors are his widow, Jane L., two daughters, Genevieve and Gertrude, and one son, Thomas. The funeral was held on Friday, at Star of the Sea church, where requiem high mass was offered, and interment was in Holy Cross Cemetery.

"Queen" Contest Ends Next Week

"All entrants are maintaining their enthusiasm and energetic work" was the report from headquarters of Elevator Operators and Starters' Union No. 117, late Wednesday afternoon, in reference to the War Bond and Stamp "Queen" contest being conducted by that organization.

Ten of the Union's women members are in the "final running," with the closing date set for Saturday afternoon of next week. Union officials stated that a partial check made Wednesday showed total Bond and Stamp sales credited to the various entrants well in excess of $11,000,000, though the officials were behind in keeping up the tally.

The fact was stressed, however, that friends of the contestants should now take note that the closing date is approaching, and that they should govern themselves accordingly in whatever efforts they have in mind toward further support for their favorite candidate.

Donations Build Workers' Relief Units in Great Britain

More than half a million dollars cocntributed by American labor will build ten new war relief projects for British workers in 1943, it is revealed by Matthew Woll, president of United Nations Relief.

The donations of organized labor will enable the British War Relief Society, acting in conjunction with the British Trades Union Congress, to provide "rest breaks," hospitals, rest homes, week-end camps, and mobile relief units for British workers.

Most important, it is said, are the "rest-break" homes where men and women, exhausted and worn under conditions of war, are given a brief respite from their duties and are to return to their jobs refreshed and invigorated.

"This is how Britain meets the problem of absenteeism," commented Matthew Woll. "The problem was initially attacked with a hue-and-cry by publicists and others who impugned the patriotism of British workers. Labor Minister Ernest Bevin insisted from the beginning that absenteeism resulted from sickness, fatigue and overwork; in time the rest of the country found his analysis to be correct."

The estimated cost for equipping eight "rest-breaks" is $100,000. Since labor and materials for construction are not available the Government has commandeered large dwellings, with the consent of the owners. Because of what is said to be the aversion of British workers to charity, each worker will pay a small sum for room and board. In this way it is hoped that the "rest-breaks" will become self-sufficient. Ten thousand men and women will be accommodated in these rest-homes during the year.

Chicago's park district police department trained 50 women as traffic officers assigned to duty at school and church crossings.

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"We Don't Patronize" List

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of labor unions and sympathizers are requested to note this list carefully *from week to week:*

Adam Hat Stores, Inc., 119 Kearny.
Advance Pattern Company, 552 Mission.
American Distributing Company.
Austin Studio, 833 Market.
Avenue Hotel, 419 Golden Gate.
Becker Distributing Company.
Bruener, John, Company.
B & G Sandwich Shops.
California Watch Case Company.
Chan Quong, photo engraver, 680 Clay.

Curtis Publishing Co. (Philadelphia), publishers of *Saturday Evening Post, Ladies' Home Journal, Country Gentleman.*

Desenfant, A., & Co., manufacturing jewelers, 150 Post.

Doran Hotels (include St. Regis, 85 Fourth St.; Mint, 141 Fifth St.; Hale, 939 Mission St.; Land, 936 Mission St.; Hillsdale, 51 Sixth St.; Grand Central, 1412 Market St., and the Ford Apartments, 957 Mission St.).

Drake Cleaners and Dyers.
Forderer Cornice Works, 269 Potrero.
Gantner & Mattern, 1453 Mission.
Gates Rubber Company, 2700 Sixteenth Street.
General Distillers, Ltd., 136 Front St.

Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of overalls and workingmen's clothing.

Lucerne Apartments, 766 Sutter.
Mirsky, B., & Son, wholesale cigars and tobaccos, 468 Third St.

M. R. C. Roller Bearing Company, 550 Polk.
National Beauty Salon, 207 Powell.
Navalet Seed Company, 423 Market.
O'Keefe-Merritt Stove Co. Products, Los Angeles.
Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom.
Purity Springs Water Company, 2050 Kearny.
Remington-Rand, Inc., 509 Market.
Romaine Photo Studio, 220 Jones.
Royal Typewriter Company, 153 Kearny.
Sealey Mattress Company, 6699 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland.
Sherwin-Williams Paint Company.
Sloane, W. & J.
Smith, L. C., Typewriter Company, 545 Market.
Speed-E Menu Service, 693 Mission.
Standard Oil Company.
Stanford University Hospital, Clay and Webster.
Sutro Baths and Skating Rink.
Swift & Co.
Time and *Life* (magazines), products of the unfair Donnelley firm (Chicago)
Underwood Typewriter Company, 531 Market.
Val Vita Food Products, Inc., Fullerton, Calif.
Wooldridge Tractor Equipment Company, Sunnyvale, California.

All non-union independent taxicabs.

Barber Shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair.

Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of the Hairdressers and Cosmetologists' Department of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America are unfair.

Cleaning establishments that do not display the shop card of Retail Cleaners' Union No. 93 are unfair.

Locksmith Shops which do not display the union shop card of Federated Locksmiths No. 1331 are unfair.